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GUS-0182
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14 March 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Contracting Officer, Development Projects Division

THROUGH: Acting Chief, DPD, Chief R&D DPD and
Mr. Eugene P. Kiefer, DPD

SUBJECT: Contract No. HL-4646, Approval for Convair to
Contract for Architectural Drawings for New
Building for Project GUSTO

REFERENCES:

- A. Memorandum for DD/P, dated 11 March 1959, same subject (GUS-0171)
- B. Memorandum for the Record, dated 12 March 1959, from C/R&D/DPD, subject "GUSTO Facilities" (GUS-0176)
- C. Note to DD/P, from Mr. Kiefer DPD, dated 13 March 1959, subject "New Building for Project GUSTO".

(Answered)
1. Reference A recommends immediate approval of [] for architectural and engineering costs in preparation for the construction of a new plant at Wheelus AFB for GUSTO. Reference B contains [] view that A&E work should be undertaken immediately or at least no later than 1 April if delay to the program is to be avoided. Reference C states that "Convair has been advised to proceed with building design" which I take to mean the A&E work in question but Mr. Kiefer believes we should not commit more than [] prior to the 24 March meeting with Convair.

2. It is my view that we will be little closer to a decision as to whether GUSTO is to proceed and with what contractor until approximately 1 April. I am prepared to have the A&E work begin on a modest scale at once and to commit [] for this purpose. I believe the company should be advised, however, that we desire to put some such limit on the expenditure for A&E until 1 April by which date we will advise them either to hold it up or to go forward with it.

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3. In the meanwhile, we should make use of the 24 March meeting to settle any misunderstandings with Convair as to what they will or will not do and we should use this period to determine finally whether a new building adjacent to their present plant is the best solution to the problem. I would also ask the Chief, Materiel Branch to explore this problem with the Office of Logistics, without, however, revealing the nature of the project, name of the company or exact location of the plant, to determine their views as to the best way to secure the necessary facility.

(sgn) Richard M. Bissell, Jr.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

Cy 1 - Addressee

2-AC/DPD

3-C/R&D/DPD

4-Mr. Kiefer DPD

5-C/Materiel DPD

DD/P:RMB:djm

✓ 6-DD/P Chrono (Ref A. NOT approved.)

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